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17 MAR 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Personnel

THROUGH: Deputy Director for Science and Technology

FROM:
Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

SUBJECT: Request for Approval of Overtime Compensation

2a AC/DRD *ML*
STAT
by sent AC/WSS

1. Paragraph four contains a recommendation for your approval.
2. "The FBIS Wire Service is manned 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and serves as a watch office and wire service of common concern to major U.S. Government consumers of FBIS material, as well as a coordination point for information on the operations of FBIS' worldwide network of field bureaus. The office consists of a staff of 10 people including the Chief and Deputy Chief. From now through August 1982, the Chief has been detailed to the Daily Reporting Division of FBIS due to staffing shortages in that office. This effectively reduces the Wire Services Staff to nine people.
3. This situation will be exacerbated over the next 5 months during the conversion of wire service operations to automation requiring 2 Wire officers at a time to attend a total of 4 2-week courses, seriously depleting manpower resources. In addition, six of the current Wire staff are scheduled for overseas assignments and preparatory training in the next few months. This rapid turnover and the conversion to MIDAS will also extend by at least 2 weeks the time it normally takes (2-6 weeks) for a new Wire officer to become operational. All this will take place during the spring and summer leave and overseas rotation period, and it will be very difficult to draw personnel from other DRD components since they, too, will be suffering manpower shortages related to the conversion to MIDAS.
4. To staff the Wire with experienced personnel overtime will be required on a regular basis from early April until at least mid-September. Six of the current Wire officers are at the GS-12 or above level. Since their extra hours will be required to maintain

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Wire operations at an acceptable level of professional competence, it is requested that FBIS be allowed to compensate them for all overtime worked during this period. The overtime will involve approximately 6 officers and up to 48 hours a week. With staffing fast approaching a critical point and conversion to MIDAS imminent, it would be appreciated if this request could be considered and approved as soon as possible.

STAT

CONCUR:

Deputy Director for Science and Technology

Date

APPROVED:

Director of Personnel

Date

DDS&T/FBIS-Pers/

(17 March 1982)

STAT

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